

**Troutdale City Council – Work Session
Troutdale City Hall – Council Chambers
104 SE Kibling Avenue
Troutdale, OR 97060-2099**

Tuesday, November 20, 2007

1. ROLL CALL

Mayor Thalhofer called the meeting to order at 8:10pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Thalhofer, Councilor Kight, Councilor Ripma, Councilor Thomas, Councilor Canfield and Councilor Daoust.

ABSENT: Councilor Kyle (excused).

STAFF: John Anderson, City Administrator; Rich Faith, Community Development Director; David Ross, City Attorney; Debbie Stickney, City Recorder; and Jim Galloway, Public Works Director.

GUESTS: Diane McKeel, Executive Director of the West Columbia Gorge Chamber of Commerce.

- 2. REVIEW:** A review of Multnomah County Transportation Funding presentation materials.
- A.** County Transportation Funding Initiative memo from Jim Galloway, Public Works Director.
 - B.** Multnomah County Transportation Survey dated October 18-21, 2007.
 - C.** Presentation titled “Board Briefing and Safety Fund” dated October 30, 2007.

Jim Galloway, Public Works Director, stated the City of Portland has been undergoing a Transportation Funding Initiative process. It appears that will take the form of a City gas tax and a City street utility fee. Late in the process Multnomah County considered the possibility of joining forces with the City of Portland and coming up with a County Transportation Funding Initiative. The County is looking at two options, an increase in Multnomah County of the vehicle registration fee, or a General Obligation (GO) Bond. The initial meeting that I attended the County discussed these two options and the sharing of the proceeds with the 4 East County Cities. I mentioned in my memo to the Council on October 9th that that might be in the neighborhood of \$250,000 to \$300,000 annually for the City of Troutdale. In early October the County was planning on conducting some surveying and also to have a series of open houses during the first week of November in Gresham, Troutdale, and one in the western part of the County. The surveying did occur and the results are included in your packet materials. The open houses did not take place. The County Board wanted more information which resulted in a second meeting of the County Board which will be held on November 29th. The County Staff made a couple of variations to their original two options which resulted in four different option that are included in Agenda Item #2-C. Those additional options talk about bridges only and a combination of bridges and roads. The County informed me that the County Chair would be

trying to talk to the Mayors of each of the East County Cities to brief them on the County's thoughts. I'm not sure if a meeting has occurred yet or if one is scheduled.

Mayor Thalhoffer replied a meeting has not taken place or been scheduled.

Jim Galloway stated John requested that I contact my counterparts at the 3 other East County Cities to see what position they've taken or if they intend to take any position on this. Gresham indicated that they were waiting for more information from the County. Fairview and Wood Village responded that they agree with Gresham.

Councilor Ripma stated we got a presentation on this at the East County Transportation Committee meeting and it raised a lot of questions. There are no answers here to those questions. Portland is imposing a gas tax and a street fund on the utility bill but how much they're planning to contribute to the bridges is completely absent from this. I wouldn't dream of supporting this until I know what Portland's share in the contribution is going to be. There isn't a clear statement that Portland would be included in the vehicle registration fee.

Jim Galloway replied my understanding is that it would be on all passenger vehicles registered in Multnomah County.

Councilor Ripma stated we're supposed to be getting \$250,000 a year from this. If it's roughly \$25 a year for the vehicle registration fee and lets say there are 10,000 cars in Troutdale, that's \$250,000. Then all of that money is going to Troutdale and none of it to the bridges? They aren't going to do it that way. They can't possibly give us \$250,000 per year. If this is to be imposed it should be regional including all 3 Counties. The County owns the bridges and it's hard, if not impossible to impose that.

Mayor Thalhoffer stated I told Chair Wheeler that they need to toll the bridges starting with the Sellwood Bridge.

Councilor Ripma stated something regional is the only way I can support this. The people that live next to the Sellwood Bridge do not want done what the County wants to do to the bridge which is to replace it with a wider 4 lane bridge. If we support this it raises \$100 million for a \$300 million dollar bridge.

Mayor Thalhoffer stated we'd like to have a work session with Ted Wheeler to get some more information and to give some input. All of East Multnomah County should be giving Ted Wheeler input into what we expect him to propose.

Jim Galloway stated I will carry that message forward.

Councilor Thomas stated I agree with Councilor Ripma.

Councilor Canfield stated it's a bad idea. Portland wants this money so they can build their cuplet on Burnside and for a trolley system on Burnside in inter northeast. It's not even enough money to pay for the bridge in Sellwood. I don't think we need anymore information.

Councilor Daoust stated if it's a vehicle registration fee alone and this goes out to a public vote, let the people speak. My only concern is about the GO Bond.

Mayor Thalhoffer stated I want a Multnomah County proposal with no ties to the City of Portland.

John Anderson, City Administrator, asked should staff pass on that we would like a presentation to the 4 East County Cities? Then if we did something like that would it be more effective or would we have a hard time getting enough City Council members to meet.

The Council agreed to have a presentation on this topic at the next 4 Cities meeting.

3. ADJOURN

Mayor Thalhoffer stated we would like to hold Committee Interviews on either Wednesday, December 12th or Thursday, December 13th. Do either of those days work for the Council? Also, last year we only interviewed new applicants and not those reapplying for the same Committee. Would the Council like to continue that practice?

The Council selected Thursday, December 13th for Committee Interviews. The Council agreed to only interview new applicants.

Jim Galloway stated you had asked for someone from ODOT to come and talk to the Council about the delay in scheduling an open house to meet with the property owners along Frontage Road. We are proposing to offer to ODOT to come to a work session following our regular Council meeting on January 8th. Does that meet your desires?

The Council agreed to invite ODOT to the January 8th work session.

MOTION: Councilor Ripma moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Kight. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.

Paul Thalhoffer, Mayor

Approved January 22, 2008

ATTEST:

Sarah Skroch, Deputy City Recorder